In the Specification (clean copy as amended)

Kindly amend the Specification as follows:

Paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2:

Zeolite is a porous crystal of which the pores are uniform and have a molecular-level size. It can be a catalyst having good activity and selectivity for conversion of aromatic compounds having a relatively small molecular size, for example, for xylene isomerization, toluene disproportionation or the like, and is so used in some industrial-scale plants. However, for conversion of large-size molecules, using zeolite is often problematic in that the reactant molecules could not penetrate into the zeolite pores, or even if having penetrated thereinto, they could not diffuse rapidly through the pores to receive satisfactory conversion activity. On the other hand, among many kinds of zeolite, pentacyl-type zeolite, mordenite-type zeolite, β-type zeolite, and faujasite-type zeolite are widely used.

B1

Paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7:

Any one can know the sizes of pore apertures in zeolite of which the structure is known. Various types of zeolites of which the structure has been clarified, and the atomic configuration in such known different types of zeolites are described in Atlas of Zeolite Structure Types (W.M. Meier, D.H. Olson, Ch. Baerlocher, Zeolites, 17(½), 1996; Reference 1). In the section of Channels in Reference 1, they show the crystallographic free diameter. The free diameter values are based on any oxygen radius of 0.135 nm. In this shape, both the maximum value and the minimum value are shown for a noncircular aperture. In this reference, the pore aperture is stereoscopically drawn as Fig. 1, and both its maximum value and the minimum value are given therein. The maximum value and the minimum value of the pore aperture referred to in the invention is just the values shown in the reference. For all types of zeolites clarified in Reference 1, their data of aperture size given in Reference 1 are referred to herein, irrespective of their composition, for judging their applicability to

B2

the invention (in fact, however, the pore size will vary, depending on the composition and the ambient temperature). For the others not shown in Reference 1 but disclosed in any other references such as journals and the like, their applicability to the invention is determined from the pore aperture diameter from their structure disclosed in such other references.

B2

Page 14, first paragraph:

From the zeolite-containing catalyst, in general, crystal water existing therein and organic substances used in producing it and still remaining therein are removed before use. In general, it may be heated at 200 to 600°C, whereby crystal water and the organic substances can be almost completely removed from zeolite.

B3